MARVEL

EWING
FRASIER
MEDINA
FABELA

GAMMA FIGHT

GAMMA FLIGHT

GAMMA FLIGHT, AN OFFSHOOT OF THE SPACE DEFENSE PROGRAM ALPHA FLIGHT, WAS ORIGINALLY ORDERED TO TRACK DOWN THE HULK AND DELIVER HIM TO THE AUTHORITIES. BUT WHEN THE HULK RECENTLY PROVED TO BE THE LESSER OF SEVERAL EVILS, GAMMA FLIGHT BROKE RANKS AND HELPED HIM.

NOW THEY'RE ON THE RUN FROM THEIR FORMER EMPLOYERS. AND THEY'VE PICKED UP TWO OTHER HULK CASTAWAYS: SCIENTIST CHARLENE MCGOWAN, WHO ONCE WORKED FOR GAMMA FLIGHT'S ENEMIES, AND A HORRIBLY MUTATED RICK JONES MERGED WITH THE GAMMA-RADIATED BODY AND CONSCIOUSNESS OF TEENAGER DEL FRYE.

THE HULK-HUNTERS HAVE BECOME THE HUNTED…

AL EWING & **CRYSTAL FRASIER**
WRITERS

LAN MEDINA
ARTIST

ANTONIO FABELA
COLOR ARTIST

VC's JOE SABINO
LETTERER

LEINIL FRANCIS YU & **SUNNY GHO**
COVER ART

WIL MOSS & **SARAH BRUNSTAD**
EDITORS

DANIEL KIRCHHOFFER, COLLECTION EDITOR
MAIA LOY, ASSISTANT MANAGING EDITOR
LISA MONTALBANO, ASSISTANT MANAGING EDITOR
JENNIFER GRÜNWALD, SENIOR EDITOR, SPECIAL PROJECTS
JEFF YOUNGQUIST, VP, PRODUCTION & SPECIAL PROJECTS

ADAM DEL RE, BOOK DESIGNER
DAVID GABRIEL, SVP PRINT, SALES & MARKETING
TIM SMITH 3, DIGITAL MANAGER/PRODUCTION
MEGHAN O'LEARY & RACHEL YOUNG, DIGITAL PRODUCTION
C.B. CEBULSKI, EDITOR IN CHIEF

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ONE

SHADOW BASE REMOTE FACILITY FN34. DECOMMISSIONED.

MY NAME'S *CRUSHER CREEL*, AND I WAS *TRANSFORMED*.

BACK IN THE DAY, MY SCUMBAG *FATHER* TAUGHT ME THE MOST IMPORTANT LESSON: THIS WORLD'LL *EAT YOU ALIVE* UNLESS YOU'RE THE BIGGEST, MEANEST BASTARD IN EYESHOT.

HEY, *LEONARD!* YOU ALMOST *DONE* BACK THERE?

LOOKS LIKE IT'S *CHECKOUT TIME*...

THING IS, THERE'S *ALWAYS* SOMEONE BIGGER 'N' MEANER.

AND WHEN I RAN INTO *MY* MEANER BASTARD--LOKI, NORSE GOD OF BASTARDS--HE REMADE WHO I *WAS* JUST FOR *FUN*.

BUT ME? I LIKE *POWER*...

...AND I LEARNED TO *ADAPT.*

RAT-ATAT-ATAT-ATAT-ATAT

LEAD. THAT'S ALWAYS FUN.

HRRK!

SOME THINGS ARE CLASSICS FOR A *REASON*...

CARL! *PUT THEM DOWN!*

GYRICH SENDS HIS *GOONS* FOR US, AND YOU WANT ME TO *TUCK 'EM IN?*

YOU GOT A LOT TO LEARN ABOUT BEING A *FUGITIVE*, LEN.

IF THEY WERE WITH *HENRY GYRICH*, THEY'D HAVE *BIGGER GUNS!*

SO WHAT ABOUT *THESE* GUNS?

THEY BIG ENOUGH THAT I GET TO *FIGHT BACK?*

THEY WERE PROBABLY EXPECTING THE *HULK!*

COME ON!

RAT-ATAT-TAT

CHARLENE! WHAT'S THE STATUS ON THAT TRANSLOCATOR?

CAPACITORS ARE CHARGING. WE SHOULD BE ONLINE.

I WAS RIGHT ABOUT THE *STEEL WALLS* IN THIS VAULT MAKING AN IDEAL *RESONATOR*--BUT THE *POWER SITUATION'S* NOT GREAT. THE SYSTEM'S *SLOW*.

SOMEWHERE IN NEW MEXICO.

IT'S SAFER TO PULL YOU OUT *ONE AT A TIME*.

KWOHM

SUNOVA--

YOU'D BETTER TAKE CARL *FIRST--*

NAH, MAN.

JUST NEED TO CATCH MY BREATH.

YOU *SURE?*

I'LL LAST A LOT LONGER THAN YOU COULD.

OFF HE GOES. GUESS THE DOC *AGREES*.

SO...LET'S SEE WHAT WE'VE GOT TO *WORK* WITH HERE.

DEEP BREATH. PUSH *PAST* THE METAL. ABSORB THE *PURPOSE*.

A *WAR MACHINE*.

I NEED 65 SECONDS TO RECHARGE THE CAPACITORS, CARL--

BAD NEWS FOR *YOU*, FELLAS. THE BABYSITTER'S *GONE*.

IT'S GONNA BE A *LONG MINUTE*...

JUST ENOUGH TIME TO *PLAY* BEFORE SOMEONE *BIGGER* SHOWS UP.

THERE'S *ALWAYS* SOMEONE BIGGER...

WE GOT EVERYTHING ON YOUR SHOPPING LIST, CHARLENE.

BUT I THINK WE CAN MARK THIS *PARTICULAR* SHADOW BASE SITE AS TOO *DANGEROUS* FOR A *RETURN VISIT*...

AGREED. WE'LL NEED TECH FROM *SOMEWHERE*, THOUGH.

RUNNING *ERRANDS?* DOES THIS MEAN WE'RE *TRANSPORTER-READY* AGAIN?

ALMOST, PUCK. WE'RE GOING TO NEED MORE *SPACE* AND BETTER *POWER INFRASTRUCTURE*--

WELL, NEXT TIME MARY BUILDS A *SECRET HIDEOUT*, I'LL MAKE SURE SHE GETS YOUR *INPUT*, SAMSON.

I AM *JUST ABOUT*--

NEW *HOME*, NO *SLEEP*. WE'RE *ALL* ON EDGE, *EH?*

LEN, LET'S TAKE A MOMENT TO APPRECIATE THE HAPPY COUPLE'S *KINDNESS* IN OPENING THEIR *HOME* TO US IN OUR HOUR OF NEED...

HE JUST DOESN'T *GET* IT.

WHEN *HE* LOSES CONTROL, WE *ALL* LOOK LIKE MONSTERS.

HEY. *I* KNOW YOU'RE NOT A MONSTER, LEONARD.

THANK YOU.

OOOOO THAT FEELS GOOD...

I'M JUST NOT USED TO BEING A *FUGITIVE.*

HIDING FROM *GYRICH* AND *ALPHA FLIGHT.* FIGHTING *SOLDIERS,* LOOTING *GOVERNMENT BASES...*

I KNOW.

BUT ONCE WE FIGURE OUT HOW TO HELP *RICK* AND *DEL...*

AND GET MY OLD BODY BACK.

AND GET YOUR OLD BODY BACK...

THANKS.

I DON'T THINK THE *OTHERS* GET IT, BUT I KNEW *YOU* COULD RELATE TO FEELING TRAPPED IN A BODY THAT FEELS SO...

UNNATURAL.

CHARLENE?

JUST BECAUSE MY BODY IS *TRANSGENDER...*

...DOESN'T MEAN IT'S *UNNATURAL!*

IT'S *NOT* THE SAME!

OH.

GUY'S A *JERK*, IS ALL I'M SAYING.

SO'RE *YOU*, CARL.

YEAH, BUT I COME BY IT *HONEST-LIKE*. HE'S JUST THIS DUMB HEADSHRINKER WHO THINKS HE *KNOWS* EVERYTHING...

FOUND IT!

FOUND *WHAT?*

I HAD THIS MADE *SPECIAL*, BACK WHEN WE FIRST SET THIS PLACE UP.

THEN YOU GOT BUSTED BY *THOR*. ONE THING LED TO ANOTHER, NEVER GAVE IT TO YOU.

HEH. WE WERE JUST *KIDS* BACK THEN.

CARL CREEL, WOULD YOU DO ME THE HONOR OF BEING MY *HUSBAND?*

IT'S *SECONDARY ADAMANTIUM*. 'CUZ YOU'RE *TOUGH*, BUT I CAN STILL BREAK YOU.

AW, MARY, YOU'VE MADE ME THE HAPPIEST MAN IN THE WORLD.

'COURSE, I'M GONNA HAVE TO LEAVE MY *CURRENT* WIFE...

THAT'S FINE. SHE CAN DO WAY BETTER THAN YOU ANYWAY.

SHE'S SMART *AND* FUNNY.

WELL, SHE'S *SMART*, AT LEAST.

YOU *NEED* SOMETHING, EUGENE?

TIME LIKE A TITAN BRIGHT AND STRONG

SPREADS ONE ENCHANTED GLEAM:

EACH HOUR IS BUT A FLUTED SONG,

AND LIFE A LOFTY DREAM.

HUH?

IT'S ***LAMPMAN.*** AN OLD FAVORITE.

JUST NICE TO SEE SOMEONE ***HAPPY,*** *EH?*

BURRITO?

YOU GET RICK'S ***HORCHATA?***

IT'S THE ONLY THING HE'S ASKED ABOUT SINCE YOU LEFT.

GOT IT RIGHT HERE.

HOW'S OUR BOY DOING TODAY?

OUR ***BOYS?*** NOT GREAT.

I THINK THEY'RE REALLY STRUGGLING WITH THE ***MOVE.***

EUGENE!

GENE?

WHERE ARE WE NOW?

WE MOVED IN WITH *CARL* AND *MARY* FOR A LITTLE WHILE, REMEMBER? WE NEEDED SOMEWHERE *OFF THE GRID.*

NO...

I THINK...

NO WORRIES, GENTLEMEN. TAKES SOME *TIME* TO ADJUST TO A NEW PLACE.

GOT YOUR *LUNCH*...

THANK YOU!

MY GAME WON'T WORK...

WELL, LET'S TAKE A *LOOK.*

SEEMS LIKE YOU GOT THINGS *STARTED*, EH? JUST LOST YOUR *PLACE.*

I DID?

YEAH

I DOESN'T

DOESN'T COME *TOGETHER.*

WHAT DO YOU SAY I GIVE IT A GO WITH YOU GUYS FOR A LITTLE WHILE?

THANK YOU

EUGENE

BOTH HANDS.

IT'S SO—

GRARI

UGH!

SO HARD.

WHY'S IT SO HARD, EUGENE?

YOU'VE BEEN THROUGH A *CHANGE*. NOW YOU'RE JUST LEARNING A NEW WAY OF *DOING* THINGS.

YOU'RE TWO PEOPLE--*RICK JONES* AND *DEL FRYE*--IN *ONE BODY*. IT'S GOING TO TAKE TIME TO *ADJUST*.

LET'S JUST TAKE A BREATH AND WATCH SOME--

CLICK

OH NO...

HNN

--LOCAL POLICE ARE ISSUING A GAMMA RADIATION WARNING, SUGGESTING THIS CREATURE IS A GAMMA MUTATE.

FOLLOWING INCREASED HULK VIOLENCE IN RECENT MONTHS, AUTHORITIES SUSPECT THE CREATURE MAY BE AN ACCOMPLICE OF DR. BRUCE BANNER, WHO REMAINS AT LARGE.

EEGGOOOOOOOO

BANG BANG

LIVE: GAMMA MONSTER ATTACKS AUSTIN

EVERYBODY!

YOU'RE GOING TO WANT TO SEE THIS!

IS THAT THE GLOB?

HE LOOKS LIKE CRAP.

NAH, S.H.I.E.L.D. NAILED GLOB A WHILE BACK.

WELL, WHOEVER IT IS...

...THEY AIN'T MAKIN' LIFE EASY FOR THEMSELVES.

...

SO WHAT'RE WE GOING TO DO ABOUT IT?

WHAT'S THIS "*WE*"? WHY'S IT ***OUR*** JOB TO DO ANYTHING, SAMSON?

WE'RE FINE HELPING YOU OUT ***SHORT-TERM***--BUT I AIN'T SIGNING UP AS A ***GAMMA COP*** AGAIN. WE ***QUIT*** THAT JOB, REMEMBER?

HARD TO FORGET TAKING ON THE WHOLE ***AVENGERS...***

I'M NOT WILLING TO BE GAMMA POLICE ***EITHER***, MARY--NOT AGAIN. I DIDN'T LIKE WHO I SAW IN THE MIRROR.

BUT IN THIS ROOM, WE HAVE TWO TOP-LEVEL EXPERTS IN THE ***SCIENCE*** AND ***PSYCHOLOGY*** OF ***GAMMA MUTATION.***

WE DON'T HAVE TO JUST THROW THIS PERSON INTO WHATEVER GAMMA JAIL IS WAITING. WE CAN ***HELP*** THEM.

I'D SAY AFTER WHAT WE DID AS ***GAMMA FLIGHT***...WE HAVE AN ***OBLIGATION*** TO HELP THEM.

EH?

EHH...

HELP ***HOW***, EXACTLY? NO GAMMA MUTATE'S ***EVER*** BEEN CURED LONG-TERM, PUCK.

ONE WAY OR ANOTHER, IT ALWAYS COMES ***BACK...***

OH? I THOUGHT THERE ***WAS*** ONE--BANNER'S KID. WHAT WAS HIS NAME, ***SKAAR?***

WASN'T ***HE*** CURED?

ONLY AGAINST HIS ***WILL***. AND THEN HE WENT ***COMPLETELY*** OFF THE GRID--BEYOND OUR ABILITY TO TRACK.

WE HAVE NO WAY OF KNOWING IF IT ***STUCK***...IF HE ***REVERTED...***

ALL I CAN GO ON IS WHAT *I'VE* SEEN--AND WHAT I'VE SEEN ISN'T *GOOD*.

LOOK AT *DEL*. HE SPENT *MONTHS* IN A TUBE WHILE WE TRIED TO JUST *ALLEVIATE* HIS CONDITION--

AND NOW I'M NOT

NOT *CURED*. I KNOW.

NO, NOT

NOT IN *PAIN*.

NOT IN PAIN.

OR IN A *TUBE*. HE'S NOT GIVING OFF *GAMMA* ANY-MORE, *EH*?

HE'S SAFE TO BE AROUND--AND THAT WAS *YOU*. YOUR WORK.

GREAT. *WONDERFUL*.

EVERY CRIME I COMMITTED FOR *SHADOW BASE*--NOT TO MENTION *DR. BANNER*--AND IT *MAYBE* HELPED *ONE PERSON*.

THAT'S NOT *NOTHING*, CHARLENE.

LOOK, WE CAN GO TO AUSTIN *RIGHT NOW*--FIND OUT *WHY* THIS MUTATE'S ON THE RAMPAGE. WE CAN *HELP* THEM.

AT LEAST GET THEM AWAY FROM *CIVILIANS*...

...AND AWAY FROM THE *COPS*.

THAT AIN'T NOTHING EITHER.

AW, C'MON.

WE AIN'T ACTUALLY *DOING* THIS, ARE WE...?

FINE. WE *ARE* DOING THIS.

BUT AFTERWARD, I GET TO ROB A BANK.

IF YOU'RE GOOD.

CHARLENE-- HOW CLOSE ARE WE TO THE *ACTION?*

ACCORDING TO THE SATELLITE FEED, THE MUTATE'S ON THE **NEXT** STREET.

NO, *WAIT*-- THEY'RE *MOVING* NOW. MOVING *TOWARD* YOU.

AND CLOSING *FAST.*

...

HOW FAST?

YOU'RE ONE OF *THEIRS*, AREN'T YOU? *WELL, I'M NOT GOING BACK!*

I'M NOT GOING BACK TO GREEN SPRING!

WRUNCH

HEY!

DOC SASQUATCH MIGHT BE A *JERK*, BUT HE'S *OUR*--

UNNH!

NO! NO MORE!

YOU'VE DONE ENOUGH, YOU SICK BASTARDS!

OH, WE AIN'T *EVER* MET BEFORE. TRUST ME.

YOU TANGLE WITH THE *ABSORBING MAN* AND *TITANIA*--

--YOU REMEMBER ALL ABOUT IT!

SHLRORP

GEEZ!

PATHETIC. GREEN SPRING SENT *YOU?*

YOU CAN'T DO A *THING* TO ME. CAN'T EVEN *HOLD* ME.

AND YOU DAMN SURE CAN'T *HURT ME--*

THAT WORKS *BOTH WAYS,* SLIME LADY.

ADAMANTIUM-- LOOK IT UP.

CLANG

C'MON-- TAKE ANOTHER *SHOT--*

*OR...*WE COULD DO WHAT WE *CAME* HERE FOR, *EH?*

WE CAN *HELP.*

THAT'S WHERE I COME IN.

GIVE ME SOME *SPACE,* EVERYONE.

EXCUSE ME?

CAN WE JUST *TALK?* JUST FOR A MINUTE.

WHAT?

I'M NOT GOING TO HURT YOU. *NOBODY* HERE IS.

WHAT'S YOUR *NAME?*

DON'T GIVE ME THAT--YOU'RE WITH *THEM*, YOU CAME TO *COLLECT* ME--

I'M NOT WITH ANYBODY.

ALL *THIS*--THE HAIR, THE CLAWS, THE *HORROR*--IT'S SOMETHING THAT WAS *DONE* TO ME.

FROM WHAT YOU SAID, *YOU* DIDN'T HAVE AGENCY IN WHAT YOU'VE BECOME EITHER. MAYBE THERE'S *COMMON GROUND* THERE.

ANYWAY, MY NAME'S *LEONARD.*

STOCKPILE!

THAT'S THE NAME THEY *GAVE ME--*

I'D RATHER NOT USE SOME *CALL SIGN.*

WHAT'S YOUR *NAME?*

...YOU'RE *NOT* WITH THEM, ARE YOU?

DIONNE.

MY NAME'S *DIONNE.*

SPTANG

HEY!

WHAT THE HELL...?

STAND AWAY FROM THE SUSPECT!

HANDS ABOVE YOUR HEAD! THE HULKBUSTERS ARE ON THEIR WAY--YOU WILL BE CONTAINED!

THE HELL WITH THAT! WHAT, WAS THAT THE WARNING SHOT?

WE'RE TRYIN' TO HAVE A CONVERSATION HERE!

TITANIA-- WAIT--

I WOULDN'T GET IN HER WAY, JUDD.

NOT WHILE SHE'S GOT THAT LOOK.

CRNCH

BLAM BLAM

SECRETS OF A HAPPY MARRIAGE, Y'KNOW?

I'LL GO AFTER HER. SHE ALREADY HATES ME...

NO, WE NEED YOU HERE TO--OH, FORGET IT.

EUGENE TO CHARLENE--

WHO WANTS SOME? HUH?

LET TITANIA SHOW YOU HOW TO REALLY ESCALATE A STANDOFF!

--SOONER WE'RE ALL OUT OF HERE, THE BETTER.

I'VE BEEN LISTENING IN. SOUNDS LIKE IT'S TIME TO BRING EVERYONE HOME.

THE SYSTEM'S STILL A LITTLE SLUGGISH, THOUGH--

IS IT SAFE?

THE ACTUAL TRANSLOCATION WILL BE.

TROUBLE IS, IT'S NOT LOCKING ON TO EVERYONE AT ONCE. IT KEEPS GLITCHING OUT.

JUST GRAB WHO YOU CAN. RIGHT NOW, ANYONE WE CAN BRING OUT IS GOOD.

IF YOU SAY SO.

TRANSLOCATING NOW.

OH NO.

...

WELL, I STAND *CORRECTED.*

YOU LEFT *SASQUATCH* WITH *TITANIA?* YOU COULDN'T BRING BACK *DIONNE?*

I WAS LUCKY TO GET *YOU.* THE WHOLE *SYSTEM'S* FREEZING UP--I THINK WE SENT TOO MANY OUT AT *ONCE.*

I ONLY HOPE THE SYSTEM DOESN'T DECIDE TO--

...

REBOOT.

HOW LONG BEFORE IT'S *BACK?*

I'LL HAVE TO GO IN *MANUALLY*-- RECONFIGURE THE PAD, THEN TRIP THE BREAKERS.

UNTIL THEN-- LEN AND MARY ARE ON THEIR *OWN.*

AND THAT'S NOT EVEN THE *BAD NEWS...*

SO HERE'S THE THING ABOUT *POWER.*

IT'S REAL NICE TO HAVE SOME. ESPECIALLY IF YOU'VE NEVER REALLY KNOWN WHAT THAT'S *LIKE*.

WHAT'S *WORSE* THAN LEAVING MY WIFE WITH A *SLIME HEAP* AND *DISCOUNT BIGFOOT* FOR BACKUP?

YOU *HEARD* HER, RIGHT? *DIONNE?*

OH NO.

NOT *YOU*...

SHE ESCAPED FROM A *LAB*. SOMEONE GAVE HER A *CODENAME*.

SHE EXPECTED SOMEONE TO *COLLECT* HER-- SOMEONE WITH *GAMMA*.

BUT PRETTY SOON, SOMEONE COMES ALONG WHO'S GOT *MORE*.

BOOM

OH YES.

IT'S *ME*.

THERE'S *ALWAYS* SOMEONE BIGGER AND MEANER.

SO THAT MEANS *SOMEBODY* OUT THERE...

...IS *BUILDING GAMMA MUTATES*.

AND IF YOU *PISS THEM OFF* ENOUGH...

...THEY'LL ADAPT TOO.

YOUR OLD FRIEND SKAAR.

YOU'RE COMING HOME, STOCKPILE...

...DADDY'S ORDERS.

SOMEONE BIGGER

GAMMA FLIGHT

STORY AND PICTURES BY EWING, FRASIER & MEDINA

#1 VARIANT BY
KAARE ANDREWS

TWO

MY NAME IS *LEONARD SAMSON*, AND I WAS *TRANSFORMED*.

I STOLE *FIRE* FROM THE *GODS*.

SKAAR!

MY NAME IS LEONARD.

I WORKED WITH YOUR *FATHER*.

AND INSTEAD OF SHARING IT WITH MY FELLOW MAN, I THOUGHT IT WOULD BE FUN TO PLAY WITH IT MYSELF.

BUT GODS-- *REAL GODS*...

I THINK WE CAN *TALK* THIS OU--

TCRACK

...THEY *PUNISH* HUBRIS.

TIME TO COME *HOME*, STOCKPILE!

NO CHANCE.

I *KNOW* WHAT HE'S *DOING* TO PEOPLE!

KLLLLLT

MCGOWAN!

GET US THE HELL *OUTTA* HERE!

NOTHING. COMMS'RE *DEAD.*

WE CAN MAKE A RUN AT THE COPS--

WE'RE NOT *CROOKS* HERE, MARY!

WE CAME TO *HELP* DIONNE.

YOU ARE THE *WORST FRIGGIN' FUGITIVE*, LEN!

LEAVE HER ALONE!!!

YOU'RE STILL AWAKE?

GRK!

YOU EVER FIGHT A *GOD* BEFORE, BEAST?

JERK.

CALLING HIM *NAMES* WON'T HELP.

NOT *HIM*.

YOU!

SKRAA AAASH

YOU *RUN OFF* TO PLAY HERO WHENEVER YOU NEED TO *FEEL GOOD*...

"...AND LEAVE THE REST OF US IN THE *DARK*."

POWER'S OUT...

...IS OUT.

I THINK I CAN JURY-RIG THE *COMMS* TO A BATTERY.

ANYONE GOT A *PHONE?*

WHAT'S GOIN' ON, *McGOWAN?!*

YOU LEFT *MARY* ALONE AGAINST *HULK'S KID!*

SYSTEM IS *GREEN*. I THINK WE JUST OVERLOADED THE POWER GRID BY RECALLING TWO PEOPLE AT ONCE.

GET THIS THING RUNNING!

NOW!

NEED POWER?

MAKE POWER?

NOT LIKE *THAT*, GUYS!

AND YOUR *FREAKING OUT* OVER YOUR WIFE IS *ADORABLE*, CARL...

...BUT I *NEED* TO FOCUS! BESIDES...

"...TITANIA CAN LAY THE HURT DOWN ON *ANYONE!*"

UNH...THIS ISN'T THE *TIME*, MARY!

BULL! YOU HAD TIME TO CALL ME A *CROOK!*

WELL, I *AIN'T* CHARLENE!

I DON'T HAVE TO TAKE YOUR ABUSIVE *CRAP* JUST BECAUSE I WANNA WRESTLE YOUR *GREEN GRIZZLY BEAR!*

KRAAAAACK

CHARLENE AND I...

I MEAN, YOU SHOULD *KNOW* WE HAVEN'T...

NOW YOU GOT TIME TO TALK?

LOOK, WE *ALL* KNOW YOU TWO ARE TRYING TO *FIND* SOMETHING THERE.

YOU *AREN'T* SUBTLE.

SHE LIKES GUYS WITH *BIG BRAINS* AND *BODY HAIR.*

AND SOON SHE'LL FIGURE OUT EUGENE'S JUST AS *SMART*, TWICE AS *CHARMING*...

...AND DOESN'T LECTURE HER ABOUT THE TELEPORTER *SHE FRIGGIN' BUILT!*

PATHETIC.

YOUR *LIVES* ARE ON THE LINE AND *NEITHER* OF YOU CAN...

...FOCUS?

WATCH YOUR SIX, SOLDIER!

MARY--

WHAT NOW?

YOU'RE *RIGHT.*

I MEAN, YOU DON'T *STEAL* A PATIENT'S *POWERS*...

...AND HIS *GIRL*...

...AND *NOT* FIGURE OUT YOU'RE KIND OF A--

MARY?

I'M LISTENING.

HOLD 'IM, DIONNE!

WHOKK

S'OUNK

I'VE TRIED TO BE *BETTER* THAN I WAS. BUT WITH THE *STRESS* LATELY...

...I'VE BEEN STRUGGLING TO CONTROL MY *WORST IMPULSES.*

YEAH. IT'S GOIN' *AROUND.*

AT LEAST *TEMPER TANTRUM* HERE IS CONTAINED...

KZZZK

--BROADCASTING?

EUGENE?

'BOUT TIME! WHAT'S GOING ON?

WE SEEM TO HAVE QUITE LITERALLY *BLOWN A FUSE.*

CHARLENE IS RUNNING *EVERYTHING* WE HAVE INTO THE CAPACITORS.

WE CAN PULL YOU HOME IN...

...LOOKS LIKE *THREE MINUTES.*

IZZAT MARY?

HEY, *RED.* YOU OKAY?

LITTLE SORE BUT FINE.

CHARLENE TAKING GOOD CARE OF YOU, BABY?

NO--SHE'S GOT ME ALL COPPERED UP *AND* SHE CALLED ME *ADORABLE.*

FINALLY, SOMEONE ELSE SE--

SHLURK

EIIIUGH!

KNNNZHT

MARY?!

MARY!

NO MORE RECHARGE!

I NEED THIS SCIENCE GADGET *NOW!*

SHOUTING WON'T MAKE THAT HAPPEN ANY *FASTER!*

THE *HELL* IT WON'T.

BOOM.

NOW YOU GOT A *BACKUP.*

THAT'S QUITE THE *INGENIOUS* BIT OF LATERAL THINKING.

NO!

NO NO *NO* NO NO!

TIME IS OUR ENEMY TODAY, DOCTOR.

WE'LL NIP OFF AND BE BACK BEFORE YOU GET THE LIGHTS ON.

THE TRANSLOCATOR IS A *HUGELY COMPLEX* DEVICE!

SO'S BEIN' A *FIGHTER JET.*

I'LL MANAGE.

JUST--

JUST KEEP YOURSELF FOCUSED ON *MARY.*

ALWAYS DO.

CAN'T HOLD HIM--

YOU THINK YOU CAN HOLD ME?!

GALACTUS COULDN'T STOP ME!

HULK COULDN'T STEAL MY BIRTHRIGHT!

YOU RUNTS WON'T EVEN TROUBLE MY SLEEP!

LITTLE MAN LIKES TO HEAR HIMSELF YELL.

QUITE ALL RIGHT...

MARTHA HERE LIKES TO YELL TOO.

HNNN!

SKREEEEEEG

NOW! WHILE HE'S DISTRACTED!

UNF!

HRK!

HA! SUCH A SOFT LITTLE MECHANICAL MAN!

SLICE

LOVELY FIGHT YOU HAVE HERE, LEONARD.

HE'S GOT HIS FATHER'S STRENGTH!

YES, YES. AND HIS MOTHER'S EYES.

THOSE FACIAL FINGERS, HOWEVER, DON'T LOOK LIKE A FAMILY TRAIT.

GODS, HOW I'VE MISSED THIS--

ATTENTION, GAMMA MUTATES!

POWER DOWN AND SURRENDER IMMEDIATELY! THIS IS YOUR FIRST AND LAST WARNING--

--FROM THE UNITED STATES HULKBUSTER FORCE!

ALL-NEW HULKBUSTERS. THIS GETS BETTER AND BETTER.

BY THE WAY, BALDY--

SKREEEEEG

--I CAN HEAR WHEN YOUR GUN CHARGES UP!

I'M HIT--

THEY'RE SHOOTING AT US!

HULKBUSTERS--CHARGE!

THEY FOUND SOME NEW GAMMA COPS. BET THAT ARMOR WASN'T CHEAP.

OUR TAXES AT WORK.

THIS FEELS WEIRD...

YOU OKAY, BABY?

ON A PERSON, THIS'D BE A FLESH WOUND.

ON A TELEPORT MACHINE...WHO KNOWS?

LET'S *TEST IT OUT.*

THINGS ARE GETTING *ROUGH* AROUND HERE, *EH?*

TOO ROUGH FOR *YOU*, MAYBE.

I'M HAVING THE TIME OF MY LIFE!

DROP THE WEAPON-- NOW--

AHH!

THIS OLD THING?

SURE, WHY *NOT?*

I LIKE MY NEW ONE BETTER ANYWAY!

NO!

UNH!

LORD-- HE'LL *KILL* SOMEONE--

SO FAR, HE'S ALL *FLESH WOUNDS* AND *SHOWBOATING*. I KNOW *KILLERS*, SAMSON--THIS AIN'T THAT.

ARE THE LOCAL *GOONS* GONNA GET A FEW *BRUISES* AND *BROKEN TOYS?* SURE.

BUT DO YOU *REALLY* CARE ABOUT THAT?

I *DO*, ACTUALLY.

BUT SHE'S *RIGHT*. IF SKAAR *WANTED* ANYONE DEAD, THEY'D BE *DEAD* RIGHT NOW.

PRETTY SURE WE GOTTA GO *NOW*--

DIONNE? ARE YOU *WITH* US?

SURE.

BETTER THE DEVIL *I DON'T KNOW*...

WE'RE ON A WING AND A PRAYER AT THIS POINT, FOLKS. I KNOW HOW *MY* TECH WORKS--I DON'T KNOW CARL'S *MAGIC* VERSION.

JUST...FOCUS ON *HOME*. ALL OF YOU.

SO I FOCUS ON *HOME*. I FOCUS ON *CHARLENE*.

AND HOW TO SAY *SORRY*, FOR EVERYTHING...

SO EITHER I ACT LIKE I KNOW MORE THAN THE *EXPERT--AGAIN*--

--OR I PUT MY HUBRIS *ASIDE* FOR ONCE.

DIONNE'S WHO WE CAME TO HELP. SHE'S PUT HER *TRUST* IN ME.

SHE HAS TO BE THE PRIORITY.

...BUT THAT'S THE THING ABOUT *HUBRIS*.

IT COMES IN MANY FORMS...

YOU GOT THIS, BABY?

I--I *GOT IT*--I GOT IT--

...AND THE GODS PUNISH IT *ALL*.

--I--

--I DON'T GOT IT--

WITHOUT MERCY.

EEEYAAARRGGHH

DEAR LORD--

CARL?

LEN? *ARE YOU THERE?*

I'VE *LOST* YOUR *SIGNAL*-- *RESPOND!*

EUGENE! ANY OF YOU! RESPOND!

--THEY--THEY *DISINTEGRATED*--

FOCUS, JENKINS!

WE'VE STILL GOT A JOB TO DO--

YEAH? GOING ALL IN ON PLAYING HULKBUSTERS, ARE WE?

WELL, I'VE GOT YOUR HULK RIGHT HERE!

ALL THE HULK YOU NEED!

LIVE FEED

WHAT A DISASTER.

AT LEAST OUR ENEMIES TOOK THEMSELVES OFF THE BOARD...

UNDISCLOSED LOCATION.

...BUT *STOCKPILE* WAS ONE OF THE MORE *EFFECTIVE* GRAFTS. EVEN IF SHE WAS A LOST CAUSE AT THIS POINT, IT'S A *SHAME* TO SEE HER GO.

HOW DO *YOU* FEEL ABOUT IT, COMMANDER?

HA! IS THAT A *SCIENTIFIC QUERY*, DOCTOR ALBA?

IF SHE IS *DEAD*... I FEEL A *LITTLE* REMORSE, I SUPPOSE. BUT IT IS BURIED *DEEP*.

WELL, SKAAR'S MISSION IS *OVER*. AND BRAWLING WITH THE HULKBUSTERS GETS US *NOWHERE*.

I'LL CALL HIM IN--

WHY?

"THE BOY IS IN NO *DANGER*. LET HIM PUT ON A *SHOW*, YES?

"SHOW THEM THEIR *OLD* WEAPONS ARE *USELESS*. DRIVE UP DEMAND FOR *OUR* SOLUTION."

IF YOU *SAY SO*, COMMANDER. *YOU'RE* THE *BOSS*.

BOSS OF *NOTHING* WITHOUT *YOUR HELP*, ALIANA. WE ARE IN THIS *TOGETHER*.

AND WE KNOW EACH OTHER *WELL ENOUGH* NOT TO... WHAT IS THE PHRASE... *STAND ON CEREMONY*.

CALL ME *EMIL.*

WITHOUT MERCY

#1 CONNECTING VARIANT BY
CARLOS PACHECO, RAFAEL FONTERIZ & MARCIO MENYZ

#1 STORMBREAKERS VARIANT BY
JOSHUA CASSARA & ALEX SINCLAIR

#1 VARIANT BY
DUSTIN WEAVER

THREE

MY NAME IS *EUGENE JUDD*, AND I WAS *TRANSFORMED*.

WHEN I WAS A *BOY*, I WANTED *ADVENTURE*, AND I SET OUT TO *LOOK* FOR IT. TO SEE *ALL THERE WAS TO SEE* IN THE WORLD.

I'VE FOUGHT IN *SPAIN* AND IN *SPACE*. I'VE HUNTED *GODS* AND CAGED *DEMONS*. I'VE BEEN A *WANTED CRIMINAL* AND *CANADA'S NATIONAL HERO*.

I'VE LIVED, AND I'VE *DIED*. I'VE SEEN *HELL* AND THE HELL BELOW *THAT*.

A LIFE LIKE MINE... IT *CHANGES* A MAN.

AND I'LL *ADMIT*--THERE ARE TIMES, EVEN *NOW*, WHEN I THINK I'VE BEEN *EVERY PLACE THERE IS TO GO*.

THIS ISN'T ONE OF THOSE TIMES, *EH?*

THIS PLACE... IT'S LIKE THE *DESERT.*

BUT THE SKY--THE LAND--IT'S ALL *WRONG...*

WHEREVER IT IS, IT'S GOT *FAUNA--*

--AND THEY'RE NOT EXACTLY *FRIENDLY!*

MR. *CREEL*--IF YOU CAN TAKE US BACK THE WAY WE *CAME* AT ANY POINT, IT'D BE *APPRECIATED--*

I--I *CAN'T!*

I CAN'T *CHANGE* EITHER! I'M *STUCK* LIKE THIS!

THIS IS *MY FAULT*--WE'RE IN *HELL,* AND IT'S *MY FAULT,* JUST LIKE BEFORE...

WHAT?

HE'S THINKING OF A *PREVIOUS ADVENTURE**--BUT HE'S *WRONG.* THIS IS NO HELL *I'VE* EVER BEEN TO.

LEN, BACK ME UP.

*SEE IMMORTAL HULK VOL. 3: HULK IN HELL! --WIL

IT'S NOT THE *BELOW-PLACE,* THAT'S FOR SURE...

COULD BE *SPACE,* I GUESS. OR THE *FUTURE,* POST-APOCALYPSE...

BACK UP. YOU'VE ALL BEEN TO HELL? *LITERAL HELL?*

JUDD'S BEEN *EVERYWHERE*--AIN'T THAT RIGHT?

I DON'T THINK I WAS EVER ON A *BATTLEWORLD,* MARY--YOU'VE GOT ME BEAT THERE.

BUT EVEN SO, BETWEEN US, WE'VE GOT A LOT OF EXPERIENCE DEALING WITH *STRANGE PLACES...*

...AND WE AREN'T THE *ONLY* ONES WORKING ON THE PROBLEM.

OH GOD.

THEY'RE *GONE*...

NO READINGS ON THEM ANYWHERE IN AUSTIN...

...ANYWHERE IN *TEXAS*...

DON'T PANIC, CHARLENE...

I...I FEEL...

NOT NOW, RICK. THIS...THIS IS *BAD*.

BEST-CASE SCENARIO IS THAT THEY'RE SOMEWHERE RANDOM BUT STILL ON EARTH...

...SOMEWHERE WE CAN FIND THEM.

THE *WORST*-CASE SCENARIO...

...THEY'RE FUSED INTO SOLID ROCK.

...A *MOUNTAIN* SOMEWHERE.

...OR AT THE BOTTOM OF THE *OCEAN*.

...OR THE *EARTH'S CORE*.

...OR DRIFTING IN *SPACE*.

...OR JUST... *DISINTEGRATED*.

THEY'RE *DEAD*.

THEY'RE ALL DEAD.

NO, LISTEN.

I... FEEL...

GUYS, PLEASE--WE'RE *ALL* FEELING SCARED. BUT WE NEED TO *FOCUS*.

I'LL TAP INTO SOME MORE SATELLITES, EVEN THOUGH THERE'S A RISK THAT GYRICH WILL--

NO!

JUST *LISTEN!*

TWO OF US HERE--AND IT'S HARD!

HARD TO *FIND WORDS*. HARD TO *THINK*. HARD *ALL* THE TIME. SO--

SO WHEN HE *TALKS*, YOU NEED TO-- TO--

--TO *LISTEN!*

RICK-- HE *KNOWS* THINGS--HE--

--HE KNOWS THINGS.

BUT IT'S HARD.

...

I'M *SORRY*, DEL.

WHAT DID YOU NEED TO TELL ME, RICK?

I CAN... *FEEL* THEM.

OUT THERE... THEY...

THEY'RE ALIVE...

"WE'RE NOT *DEAD*, AT LEAST."

AND THESE CREEPY-CRAWLIES ARE THINKING *TWICE* NOW. GUESS WE DON'T MAKE GOOD EATING.

THEY'RE NOT *DEMONS FROM HELL*, CARL-- JUST A KIND OF *ANIMAL*.

NO KIND OF ANIMAL I EVER SAW.

LIKE NOTHING *I'VE* EVER SEEN EITHER. THIS IS *NEW TERRITORY*.

DON'T *SMILE* TOO MUCH, EUGENE-- YOU'LL UNNERVE THE OTHERS...

DON'T RETREAT! **FORTIFY!** POWER FOR BODY AND MIND!

ALL OF YOU-- TAKE A LOOK. *BUILDINGS*.

WE'RE ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF SOMEWHERE. THE *COLORS* ARE A LITTLE OFF, BUT IT LOOKS LIKE A *NORMAL TOWN*...

MOSTLY *INTACT* TOO. ANOTHER STRIKE AGAINST YOUR *HELL* THEORY, MR. CREEL--THEY DON'T DO BUILDING MAINTENANCE DOWN THERE.

YEAH, YEAH. WE'RE STILL *STUCK*, AND IT'S STILL *MY FAULT*...

NOBODY LIKES A WHINER, HONEY.

LET'S MOVE IN *CLOSE AND CAREFUL*, EH?

DIONNE? YOU OKAY?

...SURE. IT'S JUST...SOMETHING *TITANIA* SAID.

THAT THIS COULD BE THE *FUTURE*.

SHE'S HOLDING SOMETHING *BACK*. HARD TO BLAME HER FOR NOT QUITE *TRUSTING* US.

I HAVE AN IDEA WHAT IT COULD *BE*... BUT LET'S SEE.

THE *NEAR* FUTURE...

I SEE *PEOPLE* WORKING THAT *CONSTRUCTION SITE*...

MAYBE US *NONHUMAN TYPES* OUGHTA HANG BACK--WE DON'T WANT *TROUBLE*, RIGHT?

THAT'S *SMART THINKING*, CARL, AND NORMALLY I'D *AGREE*...

...BUT WE'RE *ALREADY* IN TROUBLE UP TO OUR EARS--SO LET'S BRAZEN IT OUT.

THE *WORST* THAT CAN HAPPEN IS--

GRRR

...

I SHOULD STOP *SAYING* THINGS LIKE THAT, *EH?*

SOME KIND OF-- OF *GAMMA ZOMBIES!*

THEY'RE *ATTACKING--*

THANKS FOR THE *COLOR COMMENTARY*, SAMSON!

DAMMIT-- WHAT THE HELL ARE THEY *MADE* OF?

DON'T *HURT* THEM!

I *CAN'T* HURT 'EM! THIS AIN'T DOING *SQUAT!*

LIKE FIGHTING IN A *DREAM...*

I'M NOTICING THAT TOO.

I'M STARTING TO DEVELOP A *THEORY* ABOUT OUR MYSTERIOUS LOCATION...

EVERYONE FORM A SQUARE-- FIGHT *BACK-TO-BACK--*

NO! *THIS WAY!* ALL OF YOU!

THROUGH THAT *WALL...?*

THIS OLD FACTORY'S A *STORAGE FACILITY* NOW.

MOST PEOPLE DON'T KNOW THAT--

--SO IT'LL BE *EMPTY!*

QUICK--GET *INSIDE.*

JUST GOTTA ABSORB SOME OF THIS *JUNK...*

THEN I CAN *PROCESS* IT...

...*EXTRUDE* IT...

...AND WE CAN GET A SECOND TO *BREATHE.*

NICE WORK, DIONNE.

SO...YOU KNOW THIS PLACE PRETTY *WELL,* IT SEEMS.

WE WERE ALL THINKING OF *HOME* WHEN MR. CREEL *TRANSLOCATED* US...

BUT HOME'S ONLY *BEEN* HOME FOR US FOR A FEW *WEEKS,* EH?

THIS IS *THOMASVILLE, TEXAS.*

I'VE BEEN *STATIONED* HERE THE LAST YEAR OR SO. THE CLOSEST THING TO HOME I *HAD...*

...UNTIL THEY WENT *TOO FAR* AND I WENT *AWOL.*

SO WHO'S *THEY?*

THE PEOPLE WHO MADE ME WHAT I *AM.*

THE PEOPLE BEHIND THE *GAMMA GRAFTS.*

PROJECT GREEN SPRING.

THE PROJECT WAS *SOLD* TO ME BY...SOMEONE I *TRUSTED.*

SUPPOSED TO BE A *MILITARY UPGRADE*--SOMETHING THAT'D HELP US COMPETE WITH THE *HYDRAS* AND THE *A.I.M.S*--

--AND THE *HULKS.*

YEAH. AND THE HULKS.

BUT I FOUND OUT THE--THE GUY *BEHIND* IT--HE HAD *OTHER* PLANS.

THAT'S WHEN I RAN.

THERE'S A *CATCH* IN HER VOICE--SHE'S STILL HIDING SOMETHING. BUT LET'S NOT *PUSH*, EH?

YOU SAW THE BILLBOARD--*"FORTIFY,"* THEY CALL IT. THEY SELL IT AS A *BRAIN/BODY SUPPLEMENT.*

BUT IT'S THE SAME GRAFTS THEY USED ON ME...

...AND *SKAAR.*

A *SMALLER SIZE* THOUGH. LODGING IN THE BODY LIKE *TAPEWORMS.* RELEASING THE GAMMA *SLOWLY.*

AT FIRST, PEOPLE ARE *STRONGER.* THEY *HEAL* BETTER. BUT THE *LONG-TERM RESULTS...*

...WELL, I GUESS NOW WE KNOW WHAT *THOSE* ARE.

WELCOME TO THE *FUTURE...*

THE FUTURE? MAYBE *SO.*

BUT I STILL HAVE MY *OWN* THEORIES ABOUT *THAT...*

I *FEEL* THEM.

IN--IN THE *SHADOWS.*

SHADOWS?

YOU MEAN IT'S *DARK* WHERE THEY ARE?

IS IT *NIGHT?* ARE THEY IN--?

NOT LIKE— *NO*

HARD TO— TO--

I *CAN'T*--

—CAN'T *THINK!*

DOC...

YOUR *NERVOUS SYSTEMS...*

THEY'RE *CONJOINED,* AREN'T THEY?

IT'S...LIKE YOUR THOUGHTS ARE *JAMMING* EACH OTHER'S BRAINS.

WHEN I FIRST *CAME OUT* AND THINGS GOT *BAD...*

...I STARTED HAVING *PANIC ATTACKS.*

EVERY PART OF MY *BRAIN,* PULLING IN *DIFFERENT DIRECTIONS.*

I WANT YOU TO TOSS THIS BALL FROM *ONE* HAND TO--

I'M NOT A KID!

I *KNOW*. I KNOW...

WHEN PARTS OF *MY* MIND WON'T WORK TOGETHER, I GIVE IT SOMETHING *SIMPLE* TO FOCUS ON...

...AND THE REST STARTS TO SETTLE INTO PLACE.

JUST *TALK* TO THE BALL.

WHATEVER COMES TO MIND.

I--I CAN *FEEL* THEM.

LIKE WHEN I FEEL THE *GAMMA* IN PEOPLE.

IT'S LIKE... *THEY'RE* GAMMA.

I MISS MY DAD.

DOES HE KNOW I'M ALIVE?

I FEEL THEM TOO

EAST?

OKAY!

THAT'S A *START*.

I THINK WE'RE HEADING IN THE *RIGHT DIRECTION*...

SO I TRANSPORTED US TO SOME KINDA *POST-HULKPOCALYPSE FUTURE?*

NOT *QUITE*, CARL.

I'D LIKE TO *PATCH YOU UP*. UNLESS YOU CAN CHANGE *BACK?*

NAH. IT'S LIKE NOTHING HERE'S GOT ENOUGH *SUBSTANCE* FOR ME TO PULL IT *OUT*.

LIKE TRYIN' TO TUG ON SNOT.

JUST HOW MANY OF THEM *FORTIFY ZOMBIES* ARE WE GONNA NEED TO PUNCH OUR WAY THROUGH?

CHARMING. YET *INSIGHTFUL*.

HOLD STILL, *EH?*

TOWN POPULATION'S *40,000*. IF EVEN *TEN PERCENT* TOOK THE SUPPLEMENT...

...WE MIGHT HAVE TO FIGHT THROUGH *THOUSANDS* OF THOSE THINGS.

MAYBE NOT.

THEY'RE BACK AT *WORK*. JUST HOW THEY WERE.

LIKE THEY FORGOT WE *EXISTED*.

MORE LIKE NEVER KNEW WE WERE *HERE*.

THOSE'RE SOME *UGLY* BLOOD CELLS, EUGENE.

I THINK WE'RE TRAPPED IN SOME SORT OF *GAMMA VERSION* OF THE *ASTRAL PLANE*.

NOT THE BELOW-PLACE, BUT *CONNECTED* TO IT-- A KIND OF "*GAMMA PURGATORY*," MAYBE.

OR WHERE THE GAMMA INSIDE PEOPLE GOES WHEN IT'S, *AH*...

...NOT *DEPLOYED*?

SO THOSE GAMMA ZOMBIES ARE PROJECTIONS... ASTRAL FORMS...

YOU WANNA EXPLAIN THAT?

DO YOU KNOW WHEN YOUR BODY FIGHTS A *DISEASE*?

MAYBE YOU FEEL A LITTLE *OFF*, *EH*? BUT THE MIND DOESN'T TRACK WHAT EVERY *WHITE BLOOD CELL* IS DOING.

YOU'RE TELLING ME THIS *ISN'T* THE FUTURE? THERE'RE ALREADY *THAT MANY* PEOPLE WITH A FORTIFY GRAFT?

THAT'S SOMETHING I'VE BEEN WONDERING. IF THESE ARE *GRAFTS*, WHERE DID THEY--?

RRRRRRRRRR

WATCH YOUR *FEET*, SAMSON--

WHAT *IS* THAT? SOME KIND OF *CONCEALED ENTRANCE*...?

IT CAN'T BE...!

RRRGRGRGRGRGRGRRRR

GENERAL *REGINALD FORTEAN.* THE *SHADOW BASE* COMMANDER BEFORE *BRUCE BANNER* TOOK OVER--THE ONE WHO *HUNTED THE HULK.*

LORD, HIS *NECK'S* BROKEN...

YOU SICK BASTARD!

YOU *USED* ME!

...

DIONNE?

EASY. I DON'T THINK HE'S IN THE *DRIVER'S SEAT.*

I...I WAS *GONE...* FOR A *LONG TIME...*

BUT THEN THERE WAS A *DOOR.* A *GREEN* DOOR.

IT CALLED ME *BACK* FROM SOMEWHERE, BUT...

...BUT THERE WAS SOMEONE *ELSE* HERE WHEN I CAME BACK...

GENERAL?

REG.

IT'S *LEONARD SAMSON.* WE NEED TO KNOW *ANYTHING* YOU CAN TELL US ABOUT *PROJECT GREEN SPRING.*

GREEN SPRING?

THE *MILITARY UPGRADE PROGRAM.* YOU'RE MAKING *SLEEPER AGENTS--*

NO... *THEY...*

THEY'RE MAKING AN *INSURRECTION.*

HMMM...WIND UP THE *LOCALS.* FEED THEIR *FEARS.* PROVIDE THEM WITH A *WEAPON.* INSIDIOUS.

YEAH, C.I.A. PERFECTED *THAT* FORMULA BEFORE I WAS BORN.

BUT NOT WITH *UNDETECTABLE SUPERHUMANS...*

DIONNE.

I...I...

I NEVER DID RIGHT BY YOU.

I'M SO SORRY...

YOU GAVE ME *DIRECTION.*

SOMETHING'S *HAPPENING--*

NO!

NOT *YET--* NOT--

...I NEVER TOLD YOU I--

--GOT SOMETHING!

YOU'RE ALIVE!

THANK YOU, CHARLENE.

YOU'RE BRILLIANT.

I JUST PLAYED SUPPORT THIS TIME.

RICK FOUND YOU.

AND DEL PULLED YOU OUT. WITH A FEW MODIFICATIONS.

SO HOW DID...?

I'M SPOOKY

WHEN I WAS A BOY, I WANTED *ADVENTURE*, AND I SET OUT TO LOOK FOR IT.

THAT BASTARD *WORE* HIS *FACE*.

I DON'T *CARE* IF YOU'RE CRIMINALS OR TERRORISTS.

I'M GOING TO HELP YOU RIP HIM DOWN *BRICK BY BRICK*.

TO SEE *ALL THERE WAS TO SEE* IN THE WORLD.

NO.

AND TO SOMEONE WHO *TRAVELS*...

...AN ADVENTURER...

WE'RE GOING TO HELP *YOU*.

...A MILITARY BRAT...

WHY DON'T YOU TELL THEM YOUR *NAME*, SOLDIER?

...HOME ISN'T WHERE YOU *ARE*.

MY NAME IS SERGEANT DIONNE FORTEAN.

AND SOMEONE IS USING MY FATHER'S FACE TO TEAR DOWN MY NATION.

IT'S WHO YOU *LOVE*.

IT'S *FAMILY*.

NEW TERRITORY

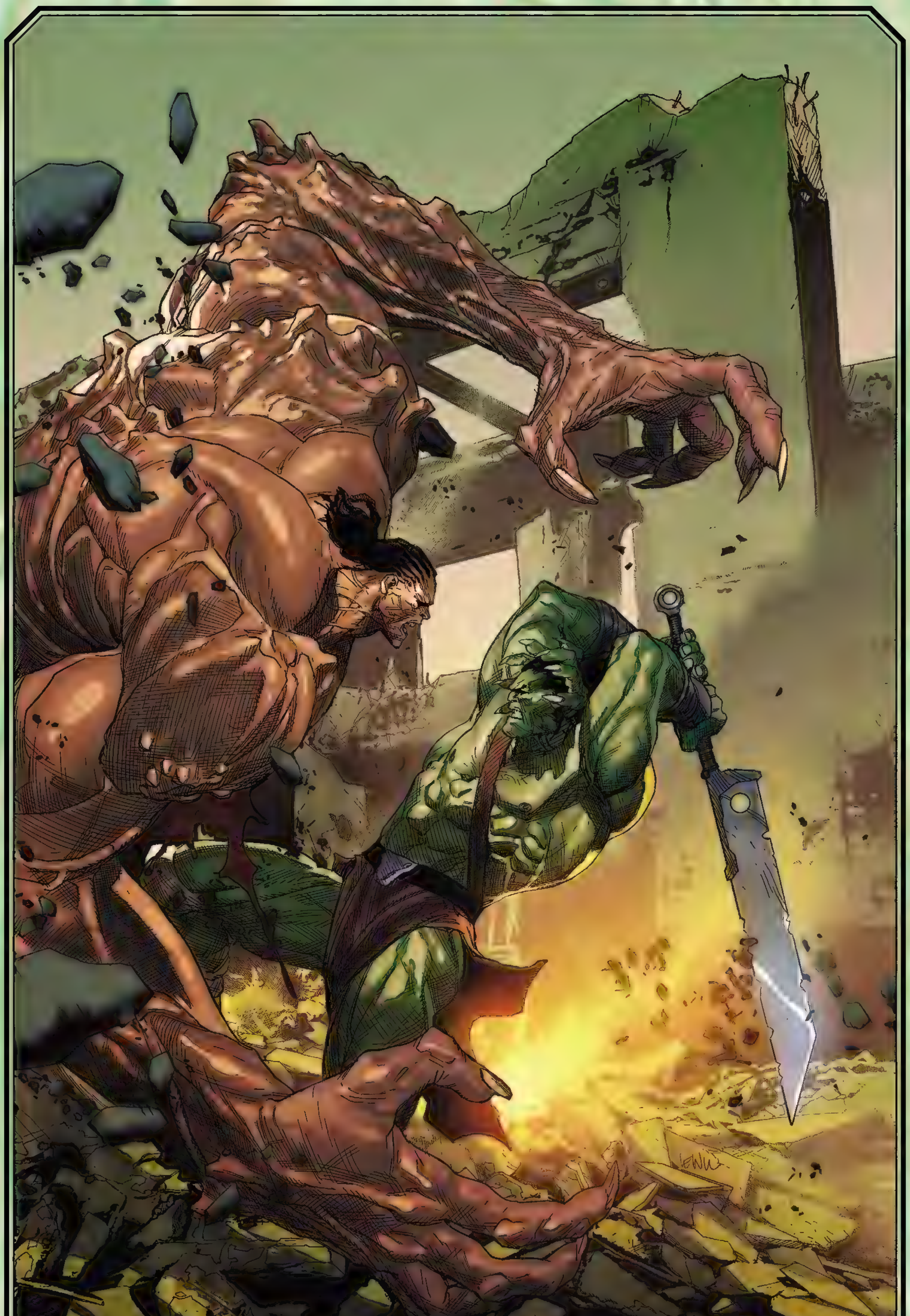
#2 CONNECTING VARIANT BY
CARLOS PACHECO, RAFAEL FONTERIZ & MARCIO MENYZ

I TOTALLY THOUGHT YOU SAID WE WERE CALLING OUR TEAM BANANA FLIGHT.
NO, ABSORBING MAN... GAMMA.
YEAH, THAT MAKES WAAAAAY MORE SENSE.
SKOTTIE YOUNG 2021

#2 VARIANT BY
SKOTTIE YOUNG

#3 VARIANT BY
KYLE HOTZ & FRANK MARTIN

#3 CONNECTING VARIANT BY
CARLOS PACHECO, RAFAEL FONTERIZ & MARCIO MENYZ



FOUR

THEN.

MY NAME IS *DIONNE FORTEAN*, AND I WAS TRANSFORMED.

THE MARINES TOOK A *BRAT* AND TURNED HER INTO A *SOLDIER*.

SOMEONE MY FATHER COULD BE PROUD OF.

AND WHEN MY COUNTRY DECIDED THEY DIDN'T *WANT* ME...

RIIIIIIIIING

...I WAS STILL SOMEONE *HE* WAS PROUD OF.

GEEZ, DAD...WHAT DID BANNER *DO* TO YOU?

AN UNPLEASANT CIRCUMSTANCE.

BUT ONE THAT ALLOWED ME TO *SURVIVE*...

...AND I'M STILL THE SAME MAN *INSIDE*.

YOU DO *TRUST* YOUR FATHER, DON'T YOU, SOLDIER?

I NEED PEOPLE *I* CAN TRUST.

I NEED...

FAMILY.

YES, SIR.

DR. ALIANA ALBA WAS SOME KIND OF GENIUS WITH GAMMA MUTATION. A LOT OF SCARS. MOST OF THEM NOT PHYSICAL.

I CANNOT OVEREMPHASIZE HOW MUCH YOU SHOULD NOT LOOK INTO THE RAY DEVICE ONCE ACTIVATED.

SKAAR WAS MUSCLE. AND ANGER.

NO PAINKILLERS.

MET A LOT OF GUYS LIKE HIM IN THE CORPS. EVERYTHING TO PROVE.

I'M SORRY, WAS I SUPPOSED TO OFFER?

AND DAD.

VRRRRRRRRRRR

SUBJECT B.

ABOMINATION.

SOON ENOUGH, YOU'LL HAVE YOUR OWN TASTE OF THIS POWER.

ONCE WE KNOW IT'S SAFE.

GRAAAAAARGH!

WE WERE GOING TO SAVE THE NATION.

YOU OKAY, MAN?

DADDY'S LITTLE GIRL HAPPY TO LET ME TAKE ALL THE RISKS?

LIE DOWN ON THE TABLE.

NO MATTER WHAT IT TURNED US INTO.

NOW.

I DIDN'T *KNOW* IT WAS AN INSURRECTION. BUT I ALSO DIDN'T *ASK*.

I WAS *PISSED OFF*, AND I LET HIM TURN ME INTO A *MONSTER* BECAUSE I THOUGHT IT WOULD MAKE ME MORE *IMPORTANT* THAN THE PEOPLE WHO *HURT* ME.

DAMN, DO I RELATE.

HA! RIGHT, RED?

DON'T BEAT YOURSELF UP, DIONNE.

SOUNDS LIKE WE'RE DEALING WITH THE *ORIGINAL* ABOMINATION, *EMIL BLONSKY*.

HE WAS A CUNNING LITTLE MOLE WELL *BEFORE* HE INHERITED YOUR FATHER'S SECRETS.

STILL, HOW DOES ONE SILVER-TONGUED *GILA MONSTER* SWAY THE HEARTS OF AN ENTIRE *TOWN?*

A.M. RADIO, APPARENTLY.

I MODIFIED THE TRANSLOCATOR TO DETECT *LOCAL BROADCASTS* AROUND THOMASVILLE.

I WAS HOPING TO PICK UP *BASE CHATTER*, BUT INSTEAD GOT *THIS*...

--THE AFTERMATH OF THE *AUSTIN ATTACK*, IT'S OBVIOUS THE *GOVERNMENT* WON'T PROTECT YOU!

WE HAVE THE *RIGHT* TO BEAR ARMS. WHY DO THEY SUSPEND THAT RIGHT WHEN IT COMES TO THE MONSTERS *THEY* MAKE?

BECAUSE THEY *WANT* YOU TO BE AFRAID.

THEY WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT IF YOU STEP OUT OF LINE, THEY'LL DRAG AMERICA INTO A DITCH AND PUT A *GAMMA-POWERED BULLET* THROUGH IT.

THIS IS *REG FORTEAN*, A *REAL* HULKBUSTER, TELLING YOU: *DON'T RETREAT-- FORTIFY!*

TURN THAT OFF.

PROJECTION. FEARMONGERING. POPULISM.

CLASSIC *BRAINWASHING*, NOW AVAILABLE STREAMING IN THE HOME.

THAT'S THE PART OF THE OPERATION I NEVER *KNEW* ABOUT.

NOT UNTIL I CAUGHT ONE OF THOSE BROADCASTS AT THE *CIRCLE Q*. OWNER WAS STOCKING THOSE...

...*SUPPLEMENTS.*

SO WHAT DO *WE* DO HERE? CALL UP *GYRICH* LIKE...

"HEY, I KNOW YOU TRIED TA KILL US, BUT TEXAS'S GOT A GAMMA PROBLEM. DO US A SOLID?"

YEAH, 'CAUSE PETE WOULD JUST *HATE* HAVIN' A COUPLE THOUSAND NEW *GAMMA SOLDIERS*...

I HAVE A THOUGHT.

YOU SAID DR. ALBA IS USING SOME KIND OF *RAY* TO STABILIZE THE TISSUE?

YEAH. WEIRD RED BEAM. SMELLS LIKE A THUNDERSTORM.

OH NO...

THAT DAMN THING'S AN *ALBATROSS* AROUND MY NECK.

ENOUGH DRAMA, LEN. JUST TELL US!

THEY'RE USING MY *CATHEXIS RAY*.

REMEMBER HOW I TOLD YOU I STOLE THE *HULK'S POWERS*?

AND HIS GIRL.

THANK YOU, MARY.

"THE *CATHEXIS RAY* IS HOW I ACCOMPLISHED THAT LITTLE STUNT. I CREATED IT, AND IT'S BEEN MAKING NEW HULKS EVER SINCE."

BUT IF THESE GRAFTS NEED A BOOST OF *GAMMA* TO BE SELF-SUSTAINING, I CAN USE THE RAY TO *DISRUPT* THAT RADIATION SIGNATURE.

THEY'LL WITHER AND *DIE*, REVERTING THE HOSTS TO NORMAL.

BUT THAT STILL LEAVES THREE THOUSAND POTENTIAL *GAMMA ZOMBIES* WE GOTTA HUNT DOWN AND ZAP.

MAYBE *NOT.*

WE KNOW THEY HAVE HIGH-POWER *BROADCAST EQUIPMENT.* I CAN *JURY-RIG* THAT TO TRANSMIT THE *CATHEXIS PULSE* ACROSS TOWN.

USING ABOMINATION'S *PLATFORM* TO DISARM HIS *SOLDIERS.*

POETIC.

BEER

YER ALL FORGETTIN' THAT WE CAN'T JUST *WALK INTO* A TOWN FULL OF *MINI-HULKS...*

MR. CARL?

I THINK I CAN.

...OKAY.

DEE-DEET
DEE-DEET

EMIL.

I THINK YOU'LL WANT TO SEE THIS.

INTERESTING.

I SUPPOSE THIS EXPLAINS THAT STRANGE *PRICKLE* UP MY SPINE DURING YESTERDAY'S IMPROMPTU GATHERING.

HOW'D THEY GET SO CLOSE WITHOUT ANYONE *NOTICING?*

THEIR CONJOINED BOYS SEEM TO HAVE A... A *"GAMMA SENSE."*

THEY CAN SENSE OUR HOSTS AT RANGE. HE'S *GUIDING* THEM AROUND THE LOCALS.

I'LL GRAB A COUPLE *BANE TROOPS* AND STOP THEM.

I'M READY FOR *THAT* REMATCH...

NOT SO FAST.

NO NEED TO *STOP* THEM, SON.

THEY'RE JUST BRINGING MY LOST LITTLE GIRL *HOME.*

SO LET THEM REACH THE FACTORY.

THEN *YOU* CAN KILL *THEM*... WHILE *I*...

SHLURCH

...WEARING MY *TRUE* FACE...

...WILL *PERSONALLY* TEACH OUR AWOL SOLDIER WHAT HAPPENS WHEN SHE DISAPPOINTS...

"DADDY."

STILL DON'T SEE THE *POINT* IN DOIN' THIS...

SAVING THIS TOWN FROM THEIR *OWN WORST IMPULSES?*

FRANKLY? *YEAH.*

I'VE KNOWN TOO MANY VILLAINS.

A GUY WANTS POWER, *WHATEVER* HIS EXCUSE...

...FEAR, HATE, THINKS HE'S *BETTER* THAN YOU...

...HE FINDS A WAY TO GET IT.

TAKE THEIR *GAMMA*, THEY'LL JUST FIND SOMETHING ELSE.

THIS CROWD? PROB'LY *GUNS.*

THESE PEOPLE CAN GROW JUST AS *YOU* HAVE, CARL.

ALL WE CAN DO IS TAKE AWAY THEIR ABILITY TO HURT THEMSELVES AND OTHERS UNTIL THEN.

ANY TOWNSFOLK IN *RANGE*, DEL?

DEL?

I CAN FEEL THEM. BUT...MOVING *AWAY*

NOT COMING *HERE*

LOOKS LIKE THEY FIXED UP THE *HOLE* WE LEFT-- UNLESS THAT JUST HAPPENED IN THE *GAMMA ASTRAL PLANE*...

BEST TO LEAVE THAT KIND OF PUZZLE FOR THE *QUIET* MOMENTS, *EH*, DIONNE?

RIGHT.

AND *SPEAKING* OF QUIET--ABSORBING THIS BRICKWORK MAKES FOR A NICE, QUIET *ENTRANCE*.

DEL'S DONE SUCH A GREAT JOB HELPING US *SNEAK IN*, IT'D BE A *SHAME* TO LET ANYONE KNOW WE WERE...

CRUNGG

...HERE.

CRUNGG

IS THAT THE SECRET ELEVATOR FROM *BEFORE?* IT LOOKS *DENTED*-- LIKE SOMEONE'S...

CRUNGG

LIKE SOMEONE'S *PUNCHING UP THROUGH IT.*

BRACE YOURSELVES, FOLKS--

--WE HAVE *COMPANY!*

WHAAMM

STOCKPILE.

AND I KNEW *WHO* FROM THE SECOND I HEARD THE SOUND. BECAUSE WHO'D *DO* THAT? WHO WOULDN'T JUST...*USE THE ELEVATOR?*

SOMEONE WITH A LOT OF *ANGER* TO TAKE OUT AND A LOT OF *MUSCLE* TO DO IT WITH. SOMEONE WHO JUST WANTS TO *PROVE* SOMETHING.

I'VE MET A *LOT* OF PEOPLE LIKE SKAAR...

LET ME *GUESS*--YOU THOUGHT YOU WERE BEING *SNEAKY,* DIDN'T YOU? YOU AND YOUR LITTLE FRIENDS.

BUT ALL THE TIME, YOU WERE JUST WALKING INTO THE TRAP...

"...AND NOW IT'S SNAPPED *SHUT* ON YOU."

I CAN *FEEL* THEM...COMING *CLOSER*...

TOWARD US. IN *PACKS*. *CONTROLLED*.

BUT STILL *PEOPLE*.

YEAH? WELL, THEY *WANTED* TO BE GAMMA ZOMBIES.

I SAY WE PUT 'EM IN *GAMMA GRAVES*.

THAT'S NOT THE *PLAN*, CARL. YOU'RE WITH *US*, REMEMBER?

LEN, I DON'T THINK WE CAN USE THE *ELEVATOR* NOW--*HEY!*

WE'LL HAVE TO TAKE THE *QUICK* WAY DOWN. *CARL*-- CAN YOU MAKE US A *PATH?*

LEAVE IT TO *ME*, HAIRBALL--

--I BEEN *HOPIN'* FOR AN EXCUSE TO USE MARY'S *WEDDING PRESENT!*

BDAM

KLAZZ

'SPECIALLY ON A PRETTY FACE LIKE *THIS* ONE!

THAT'S *SECONDARY ADAMANTIUM*, PAL!

PACKS A *PUNCH*, *HUH?*

VERY NICE, ABSORBING MAN.

SEE YOU *DOWN THERE*, FOLKS...

DIVIDING YOUR FORCES? I THOUGHT THE GENERAL TAUGHT YOU *BETTER*, STOCKPILE.

YOU DO *KNOW* THERE'S NOTHING DOWN THERE BUT *BANE TROOPERS* AND *GAMMA WOLVES*, RIGHT? NOT TO MENTION DADDY DEAREST *HIMSELF*.

STILL, MAYBE I SHOULD-- *EH?*

THE LIGHTS...?

NO.

NOT THE LIGHTS.

THE *DOOR*.

DON'T.

MY NAME'S *DEL*. SOMETHING *BAD* HAPPENED TO ME.

NOW I'M *SPOOKY*.

DON'T WANT TO SEE.

DON'T WANT TO SEE IT.

RICK DOESN'T LIKE TO *LOOK* WE SEE A *LOT*.

LOTS OF SPOOKY IN THE *GAMMA*.

WHY DON'T *YOU* LOOK? *HUH?*

LOOK THROUGH *MY* EYES...

...

THAT'S...THAT'S ALL YOU *GOT*, SPOOKSHOW?

A BUNCH OF *SHADOWS?* A FEW *GHOSTS?*

'CAUSE I'VE GOT PLENTY OF THOSE!

LEAVE THE KID *ALONE*, YA BIG--

NO. YOU TAKE HIS *BACKUP.*

SKAAR WAS THE GUINEA PIG FOR WHAT GREEN SPRING USED ON *ME*. IF I HADN'T WANTED...*THIS*...

...HE'S *MY* RESPONSIBILITY.

IT'S MY FIGHT.

NOT TO MENTION THAT IT'S A FIGHT SKAAR CAN'T *RESIST*.

WE'VE *ALL* GOT OUR ROLES TO PLAY IN THIS...

...AND IF I KEEP HIM *DISTRACTED*, THE OTHERS CAN DO *THEIR* PART--IF THEY *MAKE IT*.

I KNOW WHAT THE BANE TROOPERS ARE *CAPABLE* OF.

THERE'S SOME INTERFERENCE FROM THESE *GOONS*--BUT MY *GAMMA DETECTOR'S* PICKING UP A BIG SIGNAL.

THAT'LL BE THE *CATHEXIS RAY*...

LET'S HOPE SO.

WHOEVER GREEN SPRING *RECRUITED*, THEY'RE USED TO A *DIFFERENT* KIND OF COMBAT. HULK FIGHTS HAVE THEIR *OWN* RHYTHM.

EVEN SO--LET'S MOVE *FAST*.

KEEP YOUR *FOCUS*, DIONNE.

THOOM

WORRY ABOUT *SKAAR*.

"RESPONSIBILITY." DON'T MAKE ME *LAUGH*.

THIS IS JUST ANOTHER WAY TO GET DADDY'S *ATTENTION*.

GET SOME *LOVE* FROM THE *GENERAL*--

HNN!

MAYBE IT *WAS*. BUT THAT'S NOT *REALLY* MY FATHER.

JUST SOMEONE LIVING IN HIS *BODY*, USING MY *UNFINISHED BUSINESS* WITH HIM TO STRING ME ALONG.

TO MAKE ME HIS *TOOL*...

YOU KNOW HOW THAT FEELS.

DON'T YOU?

YOU...

I'VE KNOWN A *LOT* OF FOLKS LIKE SKAAR. SOMETIMES I'VE SEEN ONE IN THE *MIRROR*.

SOMEONE WITH *EVERYTHING TO PROVE*...TO A FATHER WHOSE LOVE HAD TO BE *EARNED*.

...YOU DON'T KNOW A *DAMN THING* ABOUT ME!

BY ANY MEANS NECESSARY.

NOTHING!

DAD WAS A *COLD* MAN. HE DEMANDED *PERFECTION*-- AND WHEN HE DIDN'T *GET* IT, HE MADE SURE YOU KNEW.

REALLY? *THAT'S* YOUR MOVE?

YOU KNOW I'M JUST GONNA *ABSORB* THAT SWORD INTO MY *BODY MASS*. WHERE'S YOUR *TACTICS*, SOLDIER?

OR DID I HIT A *RAW NERVE* THERE?

SHUT *UP*...

BUT EVEN WITH ALL *THAT*, I COULD HAVE HAD A *WORSE* FATHER.

C'MON.

WHO ARE YOU *REALLY* THIS MAD AT?

I COULD HAVE HAD *BRUCE BANNER*.

THE *END RESULT* WAS THE SAME. SKAAR WAS *TRANSFORMED*--FROM A *KID* WITH *EVERYTHING TO PROVE*...

...TO A *WEAPON* AGAINST HIS FATHER'S *ENEMIES*.

THERE IT *IS*. MY WORST MISTAKE.

CHARLENE-- CAN YOU ROUTE THE PULSE THROUGH THE *BROADCAST EQUIPMENT* FROM HERE?

LOOKS LIKE IT'S ALREADY *SET UP* FOR SOMETHING *SIMILAR*. I'M GUESSING THEY IRRADIATE THE GRAFTS IN A *SEPARATE CHAMBER*.

I HOPE WE'RE NOT PLAYING INTO ABOMINATION'S *HANDS* HERE...

I GUESS IF THIS *BLOWS UP IN OUR FACES*, WE'LL KNOW WE SCREWED UP.

YOU MIGHT HAVE TO CHECK MY WORK BEFORE I MAKE THE *FINAL CONNECTION*...

WE'RE ON THE *CLOCK*, LEN. LET'S GET IT RIGHT THE FIRST TIME.

BUT YOU NEED TO BE *CAREFUL* WITH WEAPONS.

INPUT TRANSMIT FREQUENCY

MOVE IT AN INCH *CLOCKWISE*, CARL--THE ALIGNMENT NEEDS TO BE *PERFECT*.

THERE-- THIS SHOULD BE *IT*--

YOU CAN BE AIMING THE *KILL SHOT*...

WAIT!

IT'S *OVERLOADING!* I THINK IT'S ABOUT TO--

...AND WITH JUST A SECOND OF *CARELESSNESS*...

...YOU END UP *STARING DOWN THE BARREL.*

LEN!

CARL!

NO!

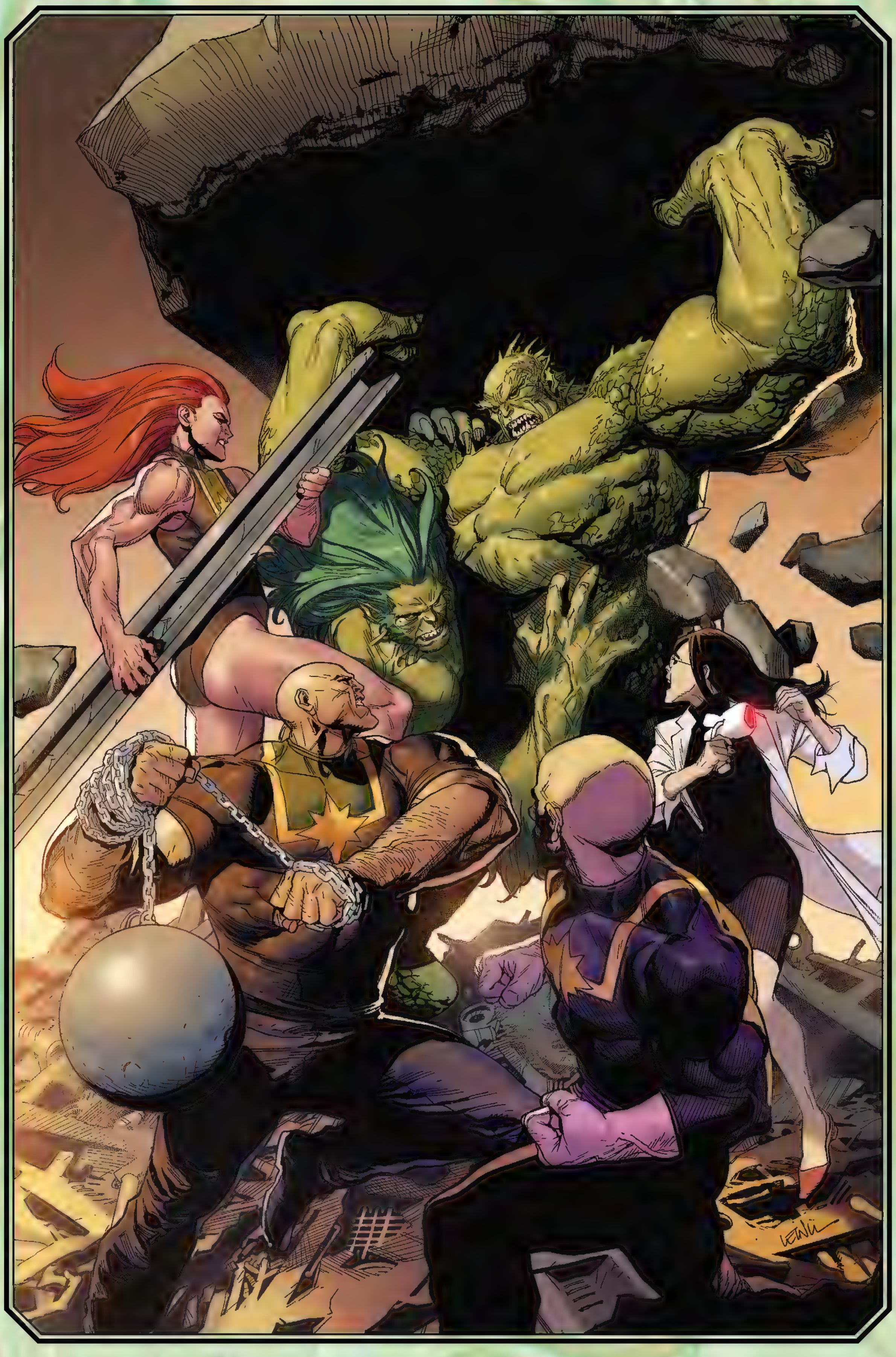
UNFINISHED BUSINESS

#4 CONNECTING VARIANT BY
CARLOS PACHECO, **RAFAEL FONTERIZ** & **MARCIO MENYZ**

#4 VARIANT BY
PATCH ZIRCHER & **JESUS ABURTOV**

#5 VARIANT BY
JAMES STOKOE

#5 CONNECTING VARIANT BY
CARLOS PACHECO, **RAFAEL FONTERIZ** & **MARCIO MENYZ**



FIVE

MY NAME IS *RICK JONES*, AND I WAS TRANSFORMED.

MY NAME IS *DEL FRYE*, AND I WAS TRANSFORMED.

I WAS A JUVENILE DELINQUENT.

I WAS A SMALL TOWN HERO.

I WAS *STUPID*, AND SOMEONE ELSE PAID THE PRICE. I TURNED BRUCE BANNER INTO A *MONSTER*.

MY DAD WAS A *GENIUS*, AND I PAID THE PRICE. HE TURNED ME INTO A *MONSTER*.

DEEP DOWN, I THINK... I *DESERVE* WHAT HAPPENED TO ME...

NO.

RICK NO

NOBODY DESERVES THIS

IT'S NOT ANYBODY'S *FAULT*

WHAT ABOUT THE *LEADER?*

WE SHOULD LET THAT GO

HE *HURT* US--

IT'S NOT *HEALTHY* TO THINK ABOUT--

I DON'T *CARE* WHAT'S HEALTHY. I DON'T *CARE.*

I'M JUST *TIRED* ALL THE TIME--*SICK* OF THIS, SICK OF *EVERYTHING*--

WELL, I'M SICK OF *YOU*--YOUR MESSED-UP *LIFE* IN MY HEAD--

YEAH? *YOU* NEVER LIVED AT *ALL*--

I NEVER EVEN *LIVED*

I NEVER GOT TO LIVE!

AAARRGH!

NOT A BAD *BACKHAND,* BOYS!

THAT'S THE *LAST* OF THEM, *EH?*

GOD, *STOP IT,* PUCK--STOP BEING *NICE*--

HE MEANS WELL. IT'S NOT HIS FAULT.

IT'S NOT *ANYBODY'S* FAULT.

YOU HEARD THE MAN, SKAAR-- NOW IT'S JUST *YOU*...AND *US*.

AND THE MAN PULLING ON THOSE *DADDY ISSUES* OF YOURS LIKE THE *TRIGGER OF A GUN*...

HA!

LOOK WHO'S *TALKING*, STOCKPILE.

YOU'RE RIGHT. I *DON'T* LIKE BEING USED. AND MAYBE I *AM* SICK OF BEING FORTEAN'S *SOLDIER*.

BUT DO YOU REALLY THINK THAT MAKES US *FRIENDS?*

I THINK YOU KNOW HOW MANY *OTHER* MONSTERS THE MAN *PRETENDING* TO BE MY DAD IS GONNA MAKE.

SO *ASK* YOURSELF...

...DO YOU *REALLY* WANT THE *COMPETITION?*

YOU GOT ME, DADDY'S GIRL.

COME ON IF YOU'RE COMING.

AND GIVE ME BACK MY *SWORD*. I DON'T KNOW HOW YOUR *BUDDIES* ARE DOING DOWN THERE...

"...BUT *SOMETHING* JUST MADE A *BIG BOOM.*"

...

WELL, THAT WAS UNPLEASANT.

LEN!

OH, THANK *GOD*-- I THOUGHT YOU WERE--

BITE YOUR *TONGUE*, CHARLENE. IT ALWAYS TOOK MORE TO STOP ME THAN A LITTLE *GAMMA EXPLOSION*-- EVEN IN MY *ORIGINAL* BODY.

AT THIS POINT, I'D BE MUCH MORE WORRIED ABOUT THE *ABSORBING MAN*...

...IF THE CLUE WASN'T IN THE *NAME.*

WHOO!

ABSORBING A *CRAZY SCIENCE RAY* WHILE IT'S *BLOWING UP?* TALK ABOUT A *RUSH.*

I AIN'T FELT LIKE THIS SINCE THE LAST BUMP I DID.

INTERESTING. YOU'VE ABSORBED THE PROPERTIES OF THE MACHINE IN ITS *ENTIRETY. A LIVING CATHEXIS RAY...*

I'VE SEEN HIM DO IT BEFORE. STILL *IMPRESSIVE,* THOUGH.

ONE SECOND-- I NEED TO CHECK THE *READINGS...*

DON'T ASK ME TO HOLD IT FOR LONG. ALL THIS *HI-TECH*--IT NEEDS A LOTTA *CONCENTRATION.* AND THE *GAMMA* DON'T HELP EITHER.

BUT I PROBABLY GOT AT LEAST *ONE GOOD ZAP* IN ME...

IT MIGHT COME TO THAT YET. *CHARLENE?*

ACTUALLY, LEN--I THINK WE GOT IT THE FIRST TIME. *SORT OF,* ANYWAY.

THE MACHINE MIGHT HAVE *BLOWN UP* ON US, BUT THE *GAMMA BURST* IT SENT OUT WAS THE *RIGHT FREQUENCY...*

"...SO THEY SHOULD BE SEEING THE RESULTS UP TOP RIGHT NOW."

SOMETHIN' WRONG?

JUST-- FEELIN' A LITTLE--

--HHORRP!

...

HOLY...

HHSSSS

HHRRPP--

WHAT WAS IN THEM *SUPPLEMENTS*...?

"FORTEAN'S *IMPLANTS*-- FORTIFY, THE GAMMA TAPEWORMS--GOT ENOUGH OF A BURST TO *DISLODGE* THEM FROM THEIR HOSTS..."

...BUT THERE COULD BE SOME *ILL EFFECTS*. HOPEFULLY NOTHING WORSE THAN A GASTRIC FLU.

BETTER THAN *GAMMA ZOMBIFICATION*, ANYWAY.

SO WE *DID* IT...

WE CURED THREE THOUSAND *STOMACH BUGS*-- *WHOOP-DE-DOO*--

--BUT THAT LEAVES THE *BIG* GAMMA IMPLANTS, DON'T IT? THE *MILITARY-GRADE* STUFF.

LIKE THOSE *WEREWOLVES* WE SAW COMIN' IN, OR *DIONNE*, OR *SKAAR*--OR THE GUY *RUNNING* THIS--

MY FRIENDS CALL ME *EMIL*.

MY *ENEMIES*... FOR *THEM*, I HAVE *ANOTHER* NAME...

...I AM **ABOMINATION**.

LET ME SHOW YOU *WHY*.

I'LL TAKE THEIR PET *SCIENTIST.*

IF SHE'S SMART ENOUGH TO NEGATE THE FORTIFY IMPLANTS, I WANT TO GET HER *MEASURE*. WE MIGHT BE ABLE TO USE HER.

ALL YOURS THEN.

YOU--

YOU LEAVE HER *ALONE--*

YOU WANT TO *FIGHT?*

I FIGHT THE *HULK!* ARE *YOU* A HULK, YOU HAIRY LITTLE *ALSO-RAN?*

NO! YOU ARE NOTHING!

LET HIM GO--

SHOOT ME, THEN. SHOOT THE *ABOMINATION* WITH A DOSE OF *GAMMA.*

I WOULD VERY MUCH *ENJOY* THAT, I THINK...

CARL!
IF YOU--
ALIANA...
...TAKE CARE OF HER, PLEASE.
AH-AH-AH...
EYES ON YOUR *OWN* WORK.
ALIANA *ALBA.*
YES, YES, AND YOU'RE CHARLENE *McGOWAN.*
I ASSUME WE'RE UP TO DATE ON EACH OTHER'S *JOURNAL ARTICLES?*
HIDING, DOCTOR? REALLY? I HAVEN'T EVEN SET THIS THING TO *FULL POWER!*
IT'LL JUST *HYPERACTIVATE YOUR NEURONS* INSTEAD OF BURNING RIGHT THROUGH--
HNNH.
BURN HER IF YOU *MUST*, ALIANA.
GAMMAVOLK-- GO BACK UP *SKAAR.*

HAVE I EVER *NEEDED* BACKUP?

YOU'RE CLEAR, SKAAR!

NO ONE USES ME!!!

SO DISAPPOINTING...

GRAR!

GNLOK

PLEASE, YOU DON'T WANT TO SHOOT ME!

DON'T TELL ME WHAT I *WANT*, LITTLE GIRL.

GZZZZNNNT

GLK

NNNG!

DID YOU... *TRANSLOCATE* HER SHOT?

YOU FIGHT *DAREDEVIL* AND THE *HULK*, YOU LEARN TO THINK ON YOUR FEET.

YOU'RE A PROPER SUPER VILLAIN *NOW*, CHARLENE.

MARY WILL BE PROUD.

SKAAR NEEDS AN *ASSIST!*

DIONNE-- YOU THINK YOU CAN REALLY UNLEASH ON YOUR OWN *FATHER?*

I GOT *PLENTY* OF ISSUES TO WORK OUT!

YOU MONSTER!

YOU *STOLE* MY DAD'S *FACE!*

YOU USED HIS MEMORIES AND YOUR FLESH TO GIVE ME *THIS!*

WELL, I DON'T WANT IT! *YOU* HAVE IT!

YOU EAT IT!

HRGL!

YOU *CHOKE* ON--

WAIT--

HE'S-- HE'S *INHALING* ME--

DIONNE!

INHALE

"CHOKE ON IT." HEH.

EVEN MY LUNGS ARE TOO STRONG FOR YOU, CHILD.

I HAVE *FORTEAN'S* DECADES OF EXPERIENCE AS WELL AS MY STRENGTH. YOU *CANNOT WIN.*

BUT IF YOU WANT TO *REJECT* THE GIFTS WE GAVE YOU...

GOTTA DO SOMETHING--

YES! HELP THEM!

...I'M HAPPY TO *ERASE* THESE SINS OF MY FLESH.

NICE, DIONNE!

HOLD HIM!

WAY AHEAD OF YOU....

RUSH HIM!

NO--STEP TO HIS *LEFT*--

GRAUR--

--SET HIM UP FOR AN *UTSURI GOSHI*--

I DON'T KNOW WHAT THAT MEANS!

GRAK

NNG!

OKAY, THEY JUST BOUGHT US A FEW *SECONDS*--

CARL!

WHATEVER YOU DO--DON'T CHANGE BACK TO HUMAN!

I *GOTTA*-- CAN'T HOLD THIS FORM ANY *LONGER*, DOC--

ONE SHOT, YOU SAID! THAT'S *ALL WE NEED!*

IT'S ALL I *GOT*. BUT...WON'T IT MAKE HIM *STRONGER*...?

THE CATHEXIS RAY WAS DESIGNED TO *CURE* HULKS. THINK OF IT AS A *GAMMA CENTRIFUGE*.

IF YOU USE IT ON *ABOMINATION*, YOU CAN *SEPARATE* HIM FROM FORTEAN-- IT'LL *WEAKEN* HIM, AT LEAST.

HE'S ON HIS *FEET*--TAKE THE SHOT *NOW*, BEFORE--

WAIT. *THAT'S* WHAT THIS GIZMO DOES?

SPLITS PEOPLE *APART?*

WHY DIDN'T YA *SAY* SO?!

PATHETIC!

YOU CANNOT EVEN *HIT* ME--

HE--

HE HIT *US*--
HE *SHOT US*--

IT *HURTS*--
IT FEELS--

--FEELS SO--

--SO *QUIET*

RICK?

DEL!

A BEAUTIFUL THING.

YOU HAD *ONE CHANCE* TO DEFEAT ME--

AAHH!

MMGGH--

--AND YOU SPENT IT TO HELP YOUR *FRIENDS*. SUCH *SOFTNESS* FROM A HARD MAN.

WHAT A *SHAME* IF I CRUSHED JONES' FRAGILE LITTLE HEAD IN MY PALM AFTER *ALL THAT*.

THIS FIGHT IS *OVER*. STAND DOWN.

YOU *CANNOT* REACH ME BEFORE--

GENERAL FORTEAN.

I NEVER OFFERED YOU A *FORMAL RESIGNATION.*

GZZZNNT

ARRRGH!

YOU... FORTEAN *REMEMBERS* YOU, McGOWAN.

NOW I WILL TOO.

KROOM

HE'S GETTING *AWAY--*

THAT'S A *GOOD THING*, JUDD. HE WIPED THE *FLOOR* WITH US.

HOW'D YOU KNOW ALBA'S GUN WOULD *STOP* HIM...?

SHE'S TOO SMART TO CARRY A WEAPON THAT *COULDN'T.*

COME ON...

"...LET'S HEAD *UPSTAIRS.*"

LOOKS LIKE YOUR PLAN *WORKED*, DOCS.

INDEED. THOUGH I DON'T ENVY THEIR "*GAMMA HANGOVER*," EH?

THESE PEOPLE WILL SUFFER ALL KINDS OF SIDE EFFECTS FROM TAKING FORTIFY. THEY COULD USE A DOCTOR WITH EXPERTISE IN *GAMMA MUTATION*...

AND ONE HELL OF A *THERAPIST.*

WE *DID* DECIDE TO HELP THOSE THE SYSTEM FAILS. A *RADICALIZED, RADIOACTIVE SMALL TOWN* MAY WELL QUALIFY.

YOU *NUTS?* GYRICH AND HIS *HULKBUSTERS* WILL BE HERE IN *20 MINUTES--*

OH, I THINK WE CAN MAKE A *DEAL* THERE.

UNLESS HE *WANTS* THE WORLD TO KNOW A ROGUE GOVERNMENT AGENCY TRANSFORMED A SMALL CHUNK OF HEARTLAND AMERICA INTO *GAMMA TERRORISTS.*

I'LL STICK AROUND--I HELPED *MAKE* THIS MESS. AND IF THERE'S A WAY TO GET *DAD* BACK, IT'S DOWN IN THAT *LAB.*

I DON'T HAVE A *DEGREE* OR ANYTHING, BUT I CAN *TALK* TO PEOPLE. HOW 'BOUT *YOU,* RICK?

NO *OFFENSE,* DEL...BUT I THINK I NEED SOME *SPACE.*

'S FAIR, BRO.

GONNA *MISS* YOU. IS THAT *WEIRD?*

A LITTLE BIT...

BUT I *GET* IT.

CRUSHER... *CARL*...I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO *SAY--*

DON'T BOTHER. I DIDN'T DO IT FOR *YOU,* JONES.

GUYS LIKE YOU AND ME, WE *MADE* OUR BEDS.

BUT *DEL*...HE NEVER *CHOSE* THIS LIFE.

HE DIDN'T *DESERVE* WHAT HAPPENED TO HIM, Y'KNOW?

PRETTY DECENT KID ONCE TOLD ME...

NOBODY DOES.

WE WERE TRANSFORMED

"The creative team performs a remarkable bit of alchemy here, melding the monster-smashing action with great character development and psychological details that sparkle with realism."
— Comics: The Gathering

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